

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS
09/01/16
CEPD

Contact from Elected Officials:

Potential or expected policy issues:

Potential or Expected Press Inquiries:

Non-responsive

Non-responsive

Alleged New AES Ash Disposal Areas Investigation - During the August 19, 2016 meeting between representatives from CEPD and members of environmental groups opposing to the disposal of AES ashes in PR's landfills, a citizen brought to EPA's attention an area near Las Mareas Bay, in which AES was allegedly planning to deposit ashes. On August 26, 2016, a CEPD official accompanied 2 members of the NGO groups to conduct a reconnaissance inspection of the alleged areas. The EPA official observed four large sediment retention basins that appeared to have been constructed many years ago. Upon further investigation, the official found that those sedimentation ponds were built as part of the construction of Las Mareas Bay during the 60's-70's period, and have been used to retain sediments during bay dredging activities (Dredging Disposal Areas). During usage of the Disposal Areas, sediment is retained, and supernatant is returned thru an open channel to the Bay. Upon further communication with

an AES upper management official, AES informed that the company has secured 2 COE permits to dredge the Bay (Disposal Areas (Sedimentation Ponds): COE Permit # SAJ-1989-00210, issued on July 21, 2016; and Dredging: July 22, 2016). The EPA official also found that EQB issued a final Water Quality Certificate for the dredging activities (JCA-1418). CEPD will be communicating this findings to the community NGOs to conclude the investigation of this allegation. A picture of the Las Mareas Bay and Disposal Areas is provided below.

